

Epworth Sleepiness Scale

The Epworth Sleepiness Scale is used to measure a patient's sleepiness. It is used as screening tool to determine the need for further testing in cases where Obstructive Sleep Apnea is suspected. This questionnaire is just a subjective test and does not determine a diagnosis.

The test is a list of eight situations in which you rate your tendency to become sleepy on a scale of 0, no chance of dozing, to 3, high chance of dozing. When you finish the test, add up the values of your responses. Your total score is based on a scale of 0 to 24. The scale estimates whether you are experiencing excessive sleepiness that possibly requires medical attention.

How Sleepy Are You?

How likely are you to doze off or fall asleep in the following situations? You should rate your chances of dozing off, not just feeling tired. For each situation, decide whether or not you would have:

No chance of dozing =0

Slight chance of dozing =1

Moderate chance of dozing =2

High chance of dozing =3

Write down the number corresponding to your choice in the right hand column. Total your score below.

Situation	Chance of Dozing
Watching TV	
Sitting inactive in a public place	
As a passage in a car for an hour without a break	
Lying down to rest in the afternoon when circumstances permit	
Sitting and talking to someone	
Sitting quietly after lunch without alcohol	
In a car, while stopped for a few moments in traffic	
Sitting and reading	
Total score	

Interpretation:

0-7:It is unlikely that you are abnormally sleepy.

8-9:You have an average amount of daytime sleepiness.

10-15:You may be excessively sleepy depending on the situation. You may want to consider seeking medical attention.

16-24:You are excessively sleepy and should consider seeking medical attention.

Reference: Johns MW. A new method for measuring daytime sleepiness: The Epworth Sleepiness Scale. Sleep 1991; 14(6): 540-5.